

January 27, 2010

Administrator Lisa Jackson

Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20460

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OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Dear Administrator Jackson,

As a student taking an Environmental Science course at the University of California, Irvine, I would like to support the Center for Biological Diversity's petition to add a ruling under section 304 of the Clean Water Act. The ruling would create stricter regulation of endocrine-disrupting chemicals in our drinking water and endangered species' habitats. While the addition of this rule would be better added sooner than later, I urge you to consider it before May 1, 2010.

I am aware that the Environmental Protection Agency has taken some action to reduce the amount of endocrine disrupters in our water supplies, such as the Endocrine Disrupter Screening Program. However, clearly this regulation has not been enough to stop the harmful effects endocrine disrupters are still having on wildlife.

In my Environmental Science course I have studied endocrine disrupters and their effects on humans and wildlife. Although the threat of endocrine disrupters in our water supply was once considered to be a false alarm, recent studies have shown that even tiny concentrations of these chemicals can have harmful effects on the reproductive systems of organisms. Jeff Miller, a conservation advocate for the Center for Biological Diversity in San Francisco, told the S.F. Chronicle on January 12, 2010 that some frog species in California have recently been found to have both male and female sex characteristics—a phenomenon which studies say is connected with an exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals.

A study conducted by University of California biologists Laruen Buckley and Walter Jetz in 2008 confirmed the theory that amphibians are the first to react to changes in the environment. This means that the mutated frogs discovered by the Center for Biological Diversity are just the beginning of the consequences that could arise if we don't regulate the endocrine disrupters entering our water system.

For these reasons, I urge you to consider adding a rule to the Clean Water Act which will eventually remove all endocrine-disrupting chemicals from our water systems.

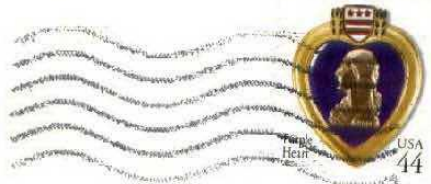
Thank you for your time,

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